

Claims

1. A photonic crystal defect structure for a vertical cavity surface emitting laser:

a plurality of holes arranged in a pattern; and

10 at least one missing hole defect in the pattern, a ratio of the hole diameter divided by the hole pitch being dependent upon the hole depth and set to produce single transverse mode operation.

2. The structure of claim 1, wherein a radius of said missing hole defect

15 is set to achieve single mode operation.

3. The structure of claim 1, formed as part of a vertical cavity surface emitting laser, the laser including:

a substrate;

20 a bottom distributed Bragg reflector;

a top distributed Bragg reflector;

an electrical current aperture;

top and bottom electrodes; and

25 a vertical cavity between said bottom and said top distributed Bragg reflectors containing an active region.

4. The structure of claim 3, wherein said plurality of holes and said defect are finite depth holes formed in said top distributed Bragg reflector.

30 5. The structure of claim 3, wherein said plurality of holes and are finite depth holes that extend through said vertical cavity and extend through at least a part of each of said top and bottom distributed Bragg reflectors.

5 6. The structure of claim 3, wherein said plurality of holes and are
infinite depth holes.

10 7. The structure of claim 3, comprising a plurality of defects arranged
in said pattern.

15 8. The structure of claim 7, wherein said pattern comprises a seven
point defect pattern.

20 9. The structure of claim 8, further comprises additional seven point
defect patterns.

25 10. The structure of claim 3, comprising a plurality of said patterns,
wherein some of said patterns are different and some are matched to provide
transverse optical coupling.

30 11. The structure of claim 10, wherein patterns are matched by having
matched dimensions of said holes, pitch between holes, hole depth and defect
radius.

25 12. The structure of claim 3, wherein said electrical current aperture
comprises an oxidized region in said vertical cavity.

30 13. The structure of claim 3, wherein said electrical current aperture
comprises an ion implanted region in said vertical cavity.

35 14. The structure of claim 3, wherein a refractive index difference within
said vertical cavity is small enough to achieve single transverse mode operation.

5 15. The laser of claim 3, wherein a radius of said missing hole defect is
set to achieve single mode operation.

10 16. The laser of claim 15, wherein dimensions are set such that the V-
parameter of the laser is set such that V_{eff} is less than ~2.405, wherein V_{eff} is
defined by:

$$V_{eff} = \frac{2\pi r}{\lambda} \sqrt{n_{eff}^2 - (n_{eff} - \gamma\Delta n)^2}$$

15 where λ is an operating wavelength, r is an equivalent defect radius, n_{eff} is
the effective refractive index of the said vertical cavity without a photonic crystal
hole pattern and defect structure present, Δn is the refractive index reduction
introduced by the said pattern and said one or more defects, and γ is the depth
dependence single transverse mode factor.

20 17. The laser of claim 16, wherein Δn is set through optimization to an
increased amount that maintains V_{eff} is less than ~2.405.

18 The laser of claim 17, wherein Δn is set to be greater than 10^{-3} .

25 19. The structure of claim 1, comprising a plurality of defects arranged
in said pattern.

20 20. A photonic crystal defect structure in a vertical cavity surface
emitting laser, comprising:

a substrate;

30 a bottom electrode electrically contacting said substrate;

a bottom distributed Bragg reflector formed on an opposite side of said
substrate from said bottom electrode;

5 a top distributed Bragg reflector;
a plurality of finite depth holes arranged in a pattern and a missing hole defect in the pattern, the pattern being formed in at least a portion of said top distributed Bragg reflector, the diameter, pitch and depth of the holes being defined by a depth dependence single transverse mode factor;
10 a vertical cavity including claddings that clad an active region, said vertical cavity being between said top and bottom distributed Bragg reflectors; and
 a top electrode including an aperture larger than the pattern.

15 21. The structure of claim 20, comprising a plurality of defects arranged in said pattern.

22. The structure of claim 20, comprising a plurality of said patterns, wherein some of said patterns are different and some are matched to provide transverse optical coupling.

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